

Amendments to the Specification:

Please add the following text before the first paragraph of the specification:

RELATED APPLICATION DATA

This application is the United States National Stage Application of International Application No. PCT/CH02/00584, filed October 29, 2002.

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

Please amend the first paragraph beginning on page 1, line 7, as follows:

The present invention concerns a device for the treatment of fractures ~~fractions~~ of the femur, and, more particularly, to a device including an intramedullary pin, a longitudinal bone fixation element configured to engage the femoral head, a sliding sleeve, and a locking mechanism configured to selectively lock rotation of the bone fixation element relative to both the sleeve and the pin when in a first position and permit free rotation of the bone fixation element relative to both the sleeve and the pin when in a second position ~~according to the preamble of patent claim 1 as well as an intramedullary pin to be used in such a device according to the preamble of claim 18.~~

Please add the following text before the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 11:

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Please add the following text before the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 18:

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 18, as follows:

The invention achieves the objective set by a device having an intramedullary pin, a longitudinal bone fixation element configured to engage the femoral head, a sliding sleeve, and a locking mechanism configured to selectively lock rotation of the bone fixation element relative to both the sleeve and the pin when in a first position and permit free rotation of the bone fixation element relative to both the sleeve and the pin when in a second position ~~the features of claim 1, as well as by an intramedullary pin having the features of claim 18.~~

Please add the following text before the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 5:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 30, as follows:

FIG. 8--a longitudinal section through a modified sliding sleeve with a helical blade ~~screw~~ pre-assembled therein,

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 33, as follows:

FIG. 9--a longitudinal section through a modification of the sliding sleeve according to FIG. 8 with a helical blade ~~screw~~ pre-assembled therein,

Please add the following text before the paragraph beginning on page 6, line 1:

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 6, line 1, as follows:

In FIGS. 1 to 2 as well as 5 to 7 a device for the treatment of femoral fractures is illustrated, that comprises an intramedullary pin 1, a sliding sleeve 10, a longitudinal bone fixing element 20 in the form of a helical blade ~~screw~~ and a locking means 30 in the form of a fixing screw.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 6, line 16, as follows:

The longitudinal bone fixing element 20 in the form of a helical blade ~~screw~~ has a longitudinal axis 21, a head portion 22 with fixing means 23 in the form of a multi-start thread with a relatively coarse pitch, that can engage the femoral head during use, as well as a shaft 24 that can be coaxially introduced into the sliding sleeve 10.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 8, line 9, as follows:

As FIG. 7 illustrates, the fixing means 23 of the longitudinal bone fixing element 20 according to FIG. 5 are constructed as a four-start helical blade ~~screw~~, wherein the thread has a pitch of approx. 120 mm.